

believe that we should use funds that are received from a mandatory fund.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Rogers.

SENATOR ROGERS: Mr. Speaker and fellow senators, I have worked with checkoffs for many, many years. I think if some of you would have seen the World Herald about a week ago the pork producers have had a lot of problems with Canadian hogs coming into the United States. If we would have not went back to Washington and made the problem known, we would not have received any favorable comments from Washington. We have not won this battle yet. I don't want you to take it in that respect, but at least we have won the first battle. This takes money to go back there. Agriculture has many problems. I think we should all realize that if we don't go back there and talk to our congressional delegation that some of these problems will never be satisfied. I see no problem with it. They talk about representation. I think most of your boards or however they are picked are willing to listen to the producer. The producer has much input into this and I don't see why people are so adamant against it when the rest of the country constantly goes back to Washington, all aspects of industry, banks, you name it. We have to go back and talk to them people and it does take money and, therefore, I can see no reason why agriculture shouldn't be in the same place as everybody else and use part of this money to go back and explain our problems. If we don't go back, we'll never win any of these battles. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins, please.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not 100 percent in favor of this, but I'm going to vote for it. At least with the voluntary checkoff the people have some voice in where their tax dollars will go. In Omaha the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce used to hold the City of Omaha up for \$50,000 of taxpayers money every year. Every year the Chamber of Commerce got \$50,000 from the City of Omaha. Senator Labedz will remember this because she was Ed Zorinsky, then the Mayor of Omaha's, secretary. Mayor Zorinsky wrote to the Attorney General and got an opinion from the Attorney General that says this is illegal to use tax dollars to give to the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce who in turn uses that money to come down here and lobby for